

Minister of State
Youth



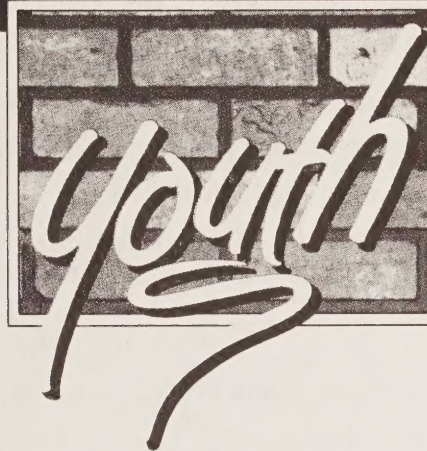
Ministre d'État
Jeunesse

The Honourable

L'honorable

Jean J. Charest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTAWA -- On the occasion of World AIDS Day, December 1, 1989, the Honourable Jean J. Charest, Minister of State for Youth, Fitness and Amateur Sport, has stressed the importance of educating young people about this deadly disease.

"Our society has a responsibility to encourage young people to make informed and healthy lifestyle decisions," said Mr. Charest. "Young Canadians need to understand the seriousness of AIDS."

"The emphasis on youth in this year's World AIDS Day is a progressive step. Young people have important roles to play in preventing the spread of the disease and in promoting understanding of AIDS in our communities," he added.

Canada

Through the Federal Centre for AIDS, the federal government has been active in fostering knowledge about AIDS among young people. The Minister cited as examples the recent Canada Youth and AIDS study, the production of three films on AIDS, and the development of a guide to help parents talk to their children about the disease.

"By replacing false notions with facts, we allow youth to understand the truly tragic nature of AIDS and to treat those with the disease with deserved compassion."

"I'd like to thank all Canadians who are involved in research, education and prevention activities on AIDS. Through their work, they are laying the foundation for long-term prevention and understanding of the disease," Mr. Charest added.

World AIDS Day is a World Health Organization initiative now in its second year. It emphasizes worldwide solidarity and action against the AIDS pandemic.

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